

## HUMIDITY CHAMBER ANALYSIS OF TRAFFIC PAINTS

1. SCOPE: This method details the use of a humidity chamber in the drying time analysis of waterborne traffic paints.
2. **APPARATUS AND MATERIALS** LIST OF EQUIPMENT :
  - 2.1. Humidity Chamber
  - 2.2. Hygrometer/Thermometer unit
  - 2.3. Cheese Cloth
  - 2.4. Glass panels
  - 2.5. Film applicator
  - 2.6. Drying time wheel and ramp
3. PROCEDURE:
  - 3.1. To initially setup the humidity chamber, close all vents and line the bottom of the chamber with cheese cloth. Then add a sufficient amount of distilled water to saturate and cover the cheese cloth. At this point place the hygrometer/thermometer unit in the center and against the back wall of the chamber. This unit should comply to or exceed the following specifications; thermometer range of 32 to 122 °F with an accuracy of  $\pm 1$  °F, hygrometer range of 25 to 95 % relative humidity with an accuracy of 2 % relative humidity. Close the door and allow to equilibrate for 24 hours. After the chamber has equilibrated, make the necessary changes to room temperature so that the temperature in the chamber is held at  $73 \pm 2$  ° F. Then make adjustments to the vents so that the relative humidity in the chamber is  $92 \pm 2\%$ . Once these conditions are established, they should be periodically checked prior to and during each analysis.
  - 3.2. Obtain a clean, dry glass panel for each analysis. The panels should be approximately 4 inches wide by 8 inches long by and 1/8 inch thick so as to accommodate a 3 inch wide stripe of the paint to be tested. The paint should be applied with a film applicator that will reproducibly apply a  $15 \pm 0.5$  mil wet film.
  - 3.3. Immediately after applying the paint stripe, place the panel horizontally in the preconditioned humidity chamber.

- 3.4. Evaluate the drying time of the paint in accordance with ASTM D 711-89, Standard Test Method for No-Pick-Up Time of Traffic Paint.
4. REPORT: Report the elapsed time between application of the film and the point at which no paint is picked up by the wheel. This time interval should be reported to the nearest minute, not to exceed 85 minutes.

APPROVED \_\_\_\_\_  
Director  
DIVISION OF MATERIALS

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